



Houston Children's Charity is a 501(c) (3) non-profit organization dedicated to improving the quality of life for Greater Houston's underprivileged, abused and disabled children who have been otherwise left behind. The scope of our support is limited only by the availability of resources. Our goal is to leave no legitimate request for assistance unanswered.

Over the past 18 years, through an array of capital and operating support, HCC has provided program services for over 265 agencies and more than 100,000 individual families. In addition, the Becker Emergency Fund has provided over \$100,000 to assist families in an emergency crisis situation.

Through our "*Chariots for Children*," we provide special purpose vehicles used to deliver mobility freedom not otherwise available. This program is dedicated to providing specifically designed handicapped accessible vans to families and equipped transportation to organizations with a similar mission. Including our 2014 van recipients, HCC has awarded 88 passenger vans, 18 handicapped accessible vehicles, 3 box trucks, 1 car and 2 vehicle modifications to 92 agencies and 18 individual families.

Houston Children's Charity has pledged a gift in the amount of \$1,000,000 to establish the "*Houston Children's Charity Family Emergency Fund at Texas Children's Cancer Center*." This fund is used exclusively for the fulfillment of the needs of the children and the families of children under treatment in Texas Children's Cancer Center.

Thanks to the generosity of our many supporters, scholarships are being provided to enable underprivileged youth to attend college, potentially breaking the cycle of poverty in their families. HCC has awarded scholarships, totaling \$240,000, to deserving Houston area students through the Houston Children's Charity Scholarship Fund.

Houston Children's Charity opened the doors to our "*HCC Closet*" with GREAT success. Semi-monthly appointments are made giving clients an opportunity to "shop with dignity" in the boutique-styled rooms while selecting items for each and every member of their family. The unique and special feature of our "*HCC Closet*" remains that all items donated are provided at absolutely no cost to our clients.

Our "*Back 2 School*" program is paving the road for success. This program provides school-aged children with a foundation ready for great accomplishments. Overall, this annual project has helped more than 14,850 children. We believe that all children should walk into school on day one with a backpack and basic supplies, not empty-handed.

Too many of Houston's children do not have beds and are sleeping on the floor. An opportunity for "*A Better Night's Sleep*" is provided through our monthly bed distributions. This program has the goal of ensuring every child has sweet dreams by providing a twin mattress set, bed frame, sheets, pillow and blanket to children in need. To date, HCC has provided over 5,800 beds to children.

Out of need in our community, HCC launched its newest program "*Kool Kidz*." It's an inevitable fact that a large number of Houston's most needy families don't have an air conditioner. This program has allowed 72 families the opportunity to stay cool during the hottest months of the year.

Our annual Easter and Christmas Parties, Christmas Toy Distributions, Adopt-A-Family, along with the numerous Sports Outings and Cultural Events, help disadvantaged children expand their awareness and experience some of the joys of life. Helping the children of our community provides a positive outlook on their futures and the future of our community.

Houston Children's Charity benefits from a "hands on" Board of Directors, which provide over 40% of the total funding. Combining careful decision-making with rapid response allows HCC to efficiently and effectively meet children's needs.

Our supporters come from all walks of life. They are people who understand that caring means giving of themselves. You will often see members of the Board of Directors, many of the busiest and most high profile executives in Houston, working hand-in-hand among volunteers chaperoning children at our Annual Children's Events. More often than not, our volunteers feel they receive much more than they give.

Houston Children's Charity seeks an ever-broadening base of support, dedicated sponsors and committed volunteers to expand its ability to help children. There are numerous avenues of participation available for any individual or corporation willing to provide resources to assist children. HCC measures success by the number of children's lives that are touched, and that is dependent upon how many of you, as individuals or companies, are willing to give of your resources, talents and time.

# "Our Kids Are Everybody's Kids"







**In the 18 years since our inception, Houston Children's Charity has provided assistance to the following 265+ agencies:**

- A Child is Born Outreach Family
- Adaptive Sports Association
- Albertine Yeager Youth Teen Crisis Center
- Aldine Y.O.U.T.H. Community Center
- Alley Theatre
- American Heart Association - Houston
- Anointed Child Care, Inc.
- Aspiring Youth Foundation
- Assistance League of Houston
- Avondale House
- Baby Riders (Voices For Choices Voices For Change)
- Bay Area Rehabilitation Center
- Bay Area Turning Point, Inc.
- Baylor College of Medicine
- Brazoria County Youth Homes
- Be An Angel Foundation
- Beacon Health
- Ben Taub General Hospital
- Best Buddies Southwest Region Office
- Bethel's Place
- Big Brothers Big Sisters of Greater Houston
- Bo's Place
- Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Houston
- Boys and Girls Country
- Boys and Girls Harbor
- Breath of Life Children's Clinic
- Brighter Visions
- Brothers in Strength, Inc.
- Camp Aranzazu, Inc.
- Camp For All
- Cancer Counseling, Inc.
- Candlelighters Childhood Center
- Casa de Esperanza de los Niño's, Inc.
- Cathedral of Faith Baptist Church
- Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston
- Cenikor Foundation
- Champions Kids Camp
- Change Happens! (formerly FUUSA)
- Child Advocates of Fort Bend
- Child Advocates, Inc.
- Child Builders
- Child Development Center
- Child Search
- Children At Risk
- Children's Activity Center
- Children's Center for Self-Esteem, Inc.
- Children's Defense Fund (CDF) Texas
- Children's Memorial Hermann Hospital
- Children's Safe Harbor
- Chimney Rock Center
- City Wide Club of Clubs, Inc.
- Coalition for the Homeless - Houston
- Collaborative for Children
- Communities in Schools Houston, Inc.
- Compudopt
- Conroe ISD Police Activities League
- Covenant House Texas
- Crohn's and Colitis Foundation of America
- CROSSROADS: Community Partnership for Youth
- Cuidamos (We Care For Kids)
- Cystic Fibrosis Foundation - Texas Gulf Coast Chapter
- DePelchin Children's Center
- Devereaux Treatment Network
- Directions for Texans Youth Foundation
- Door To Recovery
- Downtown YMCA
- Drugs Kill
- Easter Seals Disability Services
- Eiland Elementary School
- El Centro de Corazon
- Elves & More
- Epilepsy Foundation
- ESCAPE Family Resource Center
- Eye Care for KIDS Foundation
- Family Outreach Clear Lake/Bay Area
- Family to Family Network
- For Children's Sake
- Fort Bend County Rainbow Room
- Foundation for Interfaith Research
- Foundation for Teen Healing
- Galveston Family Crisis Center
- Galveston Multicultural Institute
- Generation One
- Girls Inc. - Houston
- GR8 Hope Foundation
- Gracewood, Inc.
- Grateful Temple of Salvation Multipurpose Community Outreach Center
- Greater Houston Community Foundation
- Gridiron Heroes
- HAMIC/Child Builders (Houston Advocates for Mental Health in Children)
- Hands of Serenity Healing
- Harris County Children's Protective Services (HCCPS)
- Harris County Hospital District
- Have Haven
- HCC Fashion & Interior Design
- Healthbridge Children's Hospital
- Hear Me Foundation
- Heights Youth
- Hern (McNair Foundation)
- Higher Dimension Church
- Holocaust Museum Houston
- Holy Family Church
- Holy Family Social Services
- Hope for Youth
- HOPE Shelter
- House of Charity
- House of Tiny Treasures
- Houston Area Women's Center
- Houston Children's Chorus
- Houston Hospice and Palliative Care System
- Houston Launch Pad
- Houston Police Activities League
- I Have a Dream Foundation
- Incentive Boys Ranch
- Interactive Theatre Company
- Interfaith Care Partners
- Interfaith Ministries for Greater Houston
- Italian Cultural & Community Center
- Jaycee's Children Center, Inc.

- Jazz Education Inc.
- Julia C. Hester House
- Julie Rogers "Gift of Life" Program
- Just Like Us
- Justice For Children
- Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation - Gulf Coast Chapter
- Karina Flood Victims Relief Efforts
- Kick Drugs out of America
- KICKSTART kids
- Kid Care
- Kids' Meals, Inc.
- Kids Unlimited Foundation
- KIPP Academy
- Knowledge Arts Foundation
- Krist Samaritan Center
- La Rosa Family Services
- L'Amor Village Residential Centers
- Leukemia & Lymphoma Society
- LIFE Houston
- Linda Lorelle Scholarship Fund
- Living Without Limits Living Large, Inc.
- Lone Star: National MS Society
- Lord of the Streets
- Make a Wish Foundation - Texas Gulf Coast & Louisiana
- Making It Better
- March of Dimes (Texas Gulf Coast Chapter)
- Martin Luther King Community Center
- Mary Ruth Inc.
- Memorial Hermann Foundation
- MHMRA of Harris County
- Minola's Place of Texas, Inc.
- Mission Milby Community Development Corporation
- Mission of Yahweh
- Muscular Dystrophy Association-Houston (MDA)
- Music Therapy Center of Houston (MTCH)
- No More Victims, Inc.
- North Harris County Pee Wee Football League
- Northland Christian School
- Odyssey House
- Operation Rainbow
- Parkinson's Foundation
- Peaceable Kingdom Retreat for Children
- People with AIDS Coalition-Houston, Inc.
- Pink Ribbons Project
- Pleasant Hill Academy
- Pooh's Panda Special Needs Academy (PPSNA)
- Praise Deliverance Church
- Prevent Blindness Texas
- Pro-Vision, Inc.
- Ray C. Fish Foundation
- Refuge Community Development Center
- Rene Moawad Foundation
- Resource and Crisis Center of Galveston County, Inc. (RCC)
- Santa Maria Hostel, Inc.
- SEARCH Homeless Services
- Second Blessing/Westheimer Ecumenical Social Ministry
- Shamar Hope Haven Residential Treatment Center
- Shriners Hospital for Children
- Silver Grace-Hope Foundation
- SIRE - Houston's Therapeutic Equestrian Centers
- Solutions 2 Changing Lives
- Southwest Key Programs
- Sparrow Clubs USA
- Spaulding for Children
- SpiritHorse Therapeutic Center
- St. Anne School
- St. Joseph's Inn
- St. Luke's Episcopal Health Charity
- St. Michael Home for Children
- St. Vincent de Paul
- Star of Hope
- Teen Mom
- Tejas Home for Youth
- Texans Together Education Fund
- Texas Adaptive Aquatics, Inc.
- Texas Center for Adolescent Rehabilitation and Education, Inc.
- Texas Children's Cancer Center
- Texas Children's Hospital
- Texas Cops and Kids
- Texas Equisearch
- Texas Neurofibromatosis Foundation
- The Arbor School
- The Arc: Greater Houston
- The Bair Foundation
- The Briarwood School
- The Bridge of Love
- The Bridge Over Troubled Waters
- The Cancer League
- The Center for Hearing and Speech
- The Center for Success and Independence
- The Center Foundation
- The Children's Assessment Center
- The Children's Center, Galveston, TX
- The Children's Fund, Inc.
- The Council On Alcohol and Drugs Houston
- The Diana, Princess of Wales Memorial Fund
- The Dream Foundation
- The Forge for Families, Inc.
- The Heritage Foundation
- The Houston Furniture Bank
- The Joy School - Houston
- The Learning Repertoire
- The Nehemiah Center
- The Orange Show Center for Visionary Arts
- The R.O.C.K. (Reaching Out and Catching Kids)
- The River
- The Ronald McDonald House Houston
- The Salvation Army Greater Houston Area Command
- The Sturge-Weber Foundation
- The Summerhouse Houston
- The Sunshine Kids
- The Timothy Project
- The Treehouse Center, Inc.
- The Westview School
- The Woodrow Wilson Awards
- The Word Church
- Therapeutic Family Life
- TIRR Memorial Hermann
- Tools 4 Life Books
- Transformation Youth Center
- Treasures Our Community CDC, Inc.
- Trees of Hope
- Trinity Foster Care
- Tumbling Stars Inc.
- UMDF Houston Area Chapter
- UNICEFS Southwest Regional
- United Cerebral Palsy of Greater Houston
- United Way Of The Texas Gulf Coast
- University of Houston College
- Urban Outreach, Inc.
- UT Harris County Psychiatric Center
- Uvalde P.A.L.
- Variety Club of Houston #34
- Vessels Interceding Sowing Into Our Nation
- Vita-Living, Inc.
- Volunteers of America
- Wee Care Therapy Services
- Wesley Community Center, Inc.
- Westside Homeless Partnership
- Williams Syndrome Foundation
- Willie C. McDuffie Treatment Center
- YMCA of Greater Houston
- Young Life Houston Central
- Youth & Family Counseling Services
- Youth Development Center
- Youth Young Adult Fellowship
- YouthBuild Houston
- Youth-Reach Houston, Inc.
- Zina Garrison Tennis Academy
- Zion Academy



***In the eighteen years of its existence, Houston Children's Charity has provided monthly gifts to the following:***

Commitment to provide supplemental tuition support of \$2,000 to The Arbor School each month through July 2003.



Commitment to provide two full scholarships of \$1,400 to The Arbor School through July 2003.



Cara DeRushe-\$700 in home care until her passing in 2002.



The Robert Lee Family-\$1500 monthly for financial assistance in 2005.



Arbor School rent through December 2005.



Children's Safe Harbor rent from January 2006 to present.



Claude McGuire-\$400 a month calendar year 2008 for assistance with medical needs for his son.



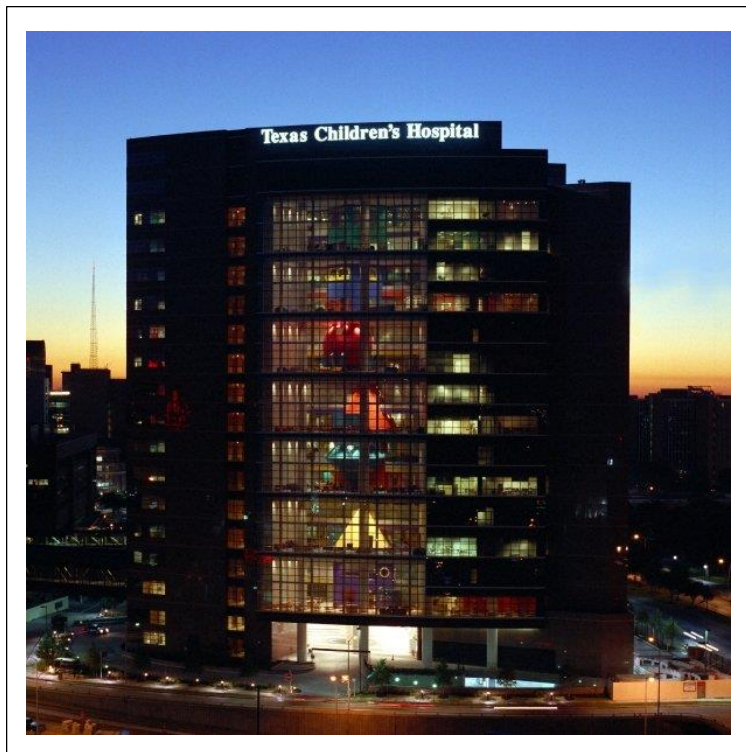
Furniture Bank-\$400 a month from June 2008 to March 2009 for fuel to operate their delivery trucks.



Houston Children's Charity has pledged a gift in the amount of **\$1,000,000** to establish the **Houston Children's Charity Family Emergency Fund at Texas Children's Cancer Center**.

This fund is used exclusively for the fulfillment of the needs of the children and the families of children under treatment in Texas Children's Cancer Center. It is administered by the Texas Children's Hospital Supportive Care Program. This fund pays for items such as meals, parking, clothing, shoes and any other specific needs not otherwise fulfilled by other available programs.

In addition, a matching gift of \$1,050,000 was executed in 2006 in honor of Lester and Sue Smith. The combined commitment of \$2,050,000 will help fund the important efforts of Dr. David Poplack and his team at the Children's Cancer Center.







## *“A Better Night’s Sleep”* Bed Program

Houston Children’s Charity’s *“A Better Night’s Sleep”* program allows Houston’s special children to sleep comfortably every night. There are thousands of children in Houston who do not have beds, many of them sleeping on the floor. Scientific research has been conducted that links better performance in school to a good night’s sleep. The goal of this innovative program is to provide beds to children who are sleeping on the floor, never having had a restful place to lay their head. HCC provides a twin bed frame, mattress set, sheets, pillows, blankets and pillow cases for each bed given to a needy child.

Since the program’s launch and the outstanding support from various donors, Houston Children’s Charity has provided many children in Houston with exactly what the program offers: “a better night’s sleep.” To date, the program has distributed over **5,800** beds to children in the Greater Houston area.



## SWEET DREAMS

Did you know that sleep is food for your brain? Overall, lack of sleep can be detrimental. Being lethargic makes anything challenging. Remember a brain that is hungry for sleep will get it, even when you don't expect it.

During unstable times it is essential to provide as much stability and security to our families as possible. There is a true reward in the feeling that one receives when providing someone with something as basic as a bed. To date, "A Better Night's Sleep" has provided over **5,800** beds to children in our community. The assistance these families receive through the "A Better Night's Sleep" program helps to improve the families' quality of life, physical, mental and emotional well-being.

A pivotal moment in the movie, *The Blind Side*, the character of Leigh Anne Tuohy is settling her young homeless guest in for the evening. *I've never had one before, he says. A bedroom, she asks? A bed, he replies.* Overcome by this young man's circumstances, Leigh Anne quickly exits – eyes filling with tears.

Due to the award-winning film, many people now know the heights that Michael Oher – a once homeless and traumatized boy – was able to reach. Through "a bed" and the love and support of a caring woman and her family, Oher became an All American Football player and a 2009 NFL first round draft pick.

Like Leigh Anne Tuohy, the staff and Board of Directors of Houston Children's Charity are deeply moved by the thought of thousands of area children growing up without a bed to sleep in. Many others are trying to rest on worn-out mattresses and makeshift beds that really should not qualify as such.

Consistently there is a wait list of 400 to 500 children in need of beds. During times of natural disaster, such as Katrina and Ike, the wait list becomes 900 to 1,000 children. We have only begun to make a dent in the need.

Only the future will reveal what is in store for these children who receive "A Better Night's Sleep." Time will tell if there is another NFL star, a future president, a Fortune 500 CEO or a beloved teacher who is among the children we assist today. Today some things are apparent. Together, we can offer children "A Better Night's Sleep." Together, we can give children the best possible start for all their tomorrows. Together, we can provide the foundation to help them rise each day—rested and equipped—to undertake any challenges that lie ahead.







## *“Chariots for Children”* Van Program

Houston Children’s Charity is dedicated to enhancing the lives of underprivileged, handicapped and abused children in the Houston community and surrounding areas. The *“Chariots for Children”* Van Program was founded in 1997 to provide specifically designed and equipped vehicles to organizations with a similar mission.

Area children’s non-profits historically suffer budget constraints, creating an endless need for assistance with transportation. The *“Chariots for Children”* Van Program is self-funding. HCC must continually meet the challenge of funding this vitally needed program. We are always seeking corporate and/or individual sponsorship to provide assistance.

For many children, our vans provide transportation to treatment or therapy. For some, a first step into a larger world. Transportation is restricted to child-related activities, whether for an outing to the zoo, a trip to the movies or a first visit to NASA or the Museum of Fine Arts.

Applicants must complete a full questionnaire and meet all of the required qualifications. Recipients are responsible for maintaining the vehicle costs, taxes and insurance, and must guarantee that they can meet these costs on a continuing basis.

Including our 2014 van recipients, HCC has awarded 88 passenger vans, 18 handicapped accessible vehicles, 3 box trucks, 1 car and 2 vehicle modifications to 92 agencies and 18 individual families, over the last 18 years.

The *“Chariots for Children”* logo and the name of the organization are displayed and maintained on the vehicle. The name of any corporation or individual providing support to this program may also be prominently displayed on the body of the van.

## Chariots for Children



# **HOUSTON CHILDREN’S CHARITY**



### **"Chariots for Children"**

**HCC has awarded 88 passenger vans, 18 handicapped accessible vehicles, 3 box trucks, 1 car and 2 vehicle modifications to 92 agencies and 18 individual families:**

**1998**

#### **CASA DE ESPERANZA DE LOS NINOS**

15-passenger van

Casa de Esperanza de los Niño's is a safe place for children in crisis due to abuse, neglect or HIV/AIDS. They provide residential, medical, and psychological care to meet the individual needs of each child and offers counseling to the family.

#### **HOUSTON POLICE ACTIVITIES LEAGUE**

Two 15-passenger van

Houston Police Activities League transports at risk children to various educational, social, athletic and cultural programs. Youth are picked up from park cites, schools, apartment complexes, community centers and occasionally from their homes, and returned there by van.

**1999**

#### **A CHILD IS BORN FAMILY OUTREACH**

Two 15-passenger vans

A Child Is Born provides outreach to girls, ages 3-18, residing in foster homes, group homes, and emergency shelters. The girls are transported to activities that are designed to meet the unique emotional, social, and academic needs of girls in temporary placement.

#### **CHILDREN'S ASSESSMENT CENTER**

15-passenger van

Children's Assessment Center aids children who are victims of child abuse. Children are transported to medical and therapy appointments.

#### **HOPE SHELTER**

15-passenger van

HOPE Shelter provides residential care and treatment to 13 teenage boys suffering from chronic substance and alcohol abuse. The children come from violent home environments and are transported to necessary school, medical care, and social activities.

#### **ODYSSEY HOUSE TEXAS, INC.**

Two 15-passenger vans

Odyssey House Texas, Inc. aids children with chronic drug and alcohol problems who are involved with the juvenile justice system. These children suffer from physical, sexual, and emotional abuse. Children are transported for medical care, legal assistance and to both social and psychological services.

## **ZINA GARRISON'S ALL COURT TENNIS FOUNDATION**

15-passenger van, 8-passenger van

Zina Garrison's All Court Tennis Foundation aids underprivileged, inner city youth by providing a free, year-round, character building program via tennis and mentoring programs. Children are transported to tennis lessons and tournaments.

**2000**

### **"I HAVE A DREAM"-HOUSTON**

15-passenger van

"I Have a Dream"-Houston helps break the cycle of hopelessness and poverty in inner city youth by giving disadvantaged children the support and encouragement necessary to earn a high school diploma. Children are transported to after school educational programs.

### **INTERFAITH MINISTRIES**

15-passenger van

Interfaith Ministries aids refugee children arriving in the United States with a variety of handicaps. Some have physical handicaps as a result of war, and all must adjust to being uprooted, learning a new language, making new friends and living in a new culture. Children are transported to interviews and appointments.

### **JAYCEE'S CHILDREN CENTER**

15-passenger van

Jaycee's Children Center is a residential treatment center serving adolescent females ages 12 through 18 suffering from physical, emotional, and sexual abuse. Children are transported to medical care, psychological counseling, social services, and educational programs.

### **ST. JOSEPH'S INN**

12-passenger van

St. Joseph's Inn provides group foster home and emergency shelter to infants and children to age 10 who are innocent victims of the crisis facing their parents and families. Children are transported to school, church, doctor's appointments, enrichment and educational activities, parks and libraries.

**2001**

### **CONROE ISD POLICE ACTIVITY LEAGUE**

15-passenger van

Conroe ISD PAL actively promotes better relationships between police officers and kids on the street. The program creates a bond between the police officer and "at risk", underprivileged, homeless or abused child through athletics, recreational activities and educational programs. PAL gives youth the opportunity to discover themselves, gain self-esteem and a positive attitude toward police officers, our laws and society. PAL encourages youth to learn that there are alternatives to gangs, drugs and crime and allows them to see themselves fitting into a world they never knew existed.

### **COVENANT HOUSE TEXAS**

12-passenger van

Covenant House of Texas provides care for children suffering from emotional, physical, and substance abuse as well as those that are homeless. Children are transported to Children's Protective Services, to medical care, legal assistance, educational and training programs, and psychosocial counseling.



### **EASTER SEALS**

Two 15-passenger vans

Easter Seals has a 90-year history of providing services to persons with disabilities. Their mission is to provide and coordinate direct services and education to help persons of all abilities achieve equality, dignity and independence.

### **FAMILIES UNDER URBAN & SOCIAL ATTACK**

15-passenger van

FUUSA is an eleven-year-old community based nonprofit program serving families in Harris County. FUUSA's mission is to address societal problems that affect families by empowering the community through education, prevention, research, advocacy, intervention and collaboration. The underlying philosophy of FUUSA is that change happens!"

### **HOUSTON AREA WOMEN'S CENTER**

15-passenger van

HAWC is the only agency in Houston that provides comprehensive services to survivors of sexual assault and domestic violence, as well as the crucial community education needed to prevent violence against women and children. HAWC's services include emergency shelter, crisis intervention, individual and group counseling, referrals, legal advocacy, job training, transitional housing, and community outreach.

### **KIPP ACADEMY**

15-passenger van

The mission of KIPP Academy is to prepare students with the academic, intellectual and character skills necessary to succeed in high school, college and the competitive world beyond. A state charter school serving students in grades five through nine, KIPP students and teachers commit to attending school from 7:30am to 5:00pm during the week, four hours on Saturdays and one month during the summer.

### **WILLIE C. MCDUFFIE TREATMENT CENTER**

15-passenger van

Willie C. McDuffie Adolescent Treatment Center strives to mainstream adolescents to normalcy within the family and the community. By creating a positive home environment, they are committed to changing lives of those who will share the future. They are devoted to encouraging our children to dream and strive for the unreachable.

### **TEXAS ADAPTIVE AQUATICS**

15-passenger van

Texas Adaptive Aquatics promotes the instruction and opportunity of water sports for physically and mentally challenged adults and children. TAA features the outstanding adaptive water skiing program allowing people with disabilities the opportunity to discover the thrill and excitement of water skiing.

### **WESLEY COMMUNITY CENTER**

15-passenger van

Wesley is a multipurpose agency that serves people of all ages: infants in early childhood development programs, school age youth, adults and families and senior citizens. Our mission statement is: "Wesley Community Center ministers to the needs of individuals and families by helping people help themselves and each other."

## **LA ROSA**

15-passenger van

La Rosa's mission is to assist at no charge families affected by domestic violence and abuse. This assistance comes by offering programs such as emergency/crisis intervention, teen support groups, workshops, tutoring, mentoring, counseling, and youth intervention. La Rosa believes in promoting the health and safety of children through positive family support, instructional outreach, and educational programs. Since 1995, La Rosa has proudly served over 25,000 individuals through all programs combined.

## **THE CHILDREN'S CENTER, INC.**

15-passenger van

The Children's Center, Inc. has provided services in the Houston-Galveston area of Texas since 1878. It currently provides child and family advocacy, childcare for at-risk and special needs children, emergency shelter services for children, youth and families, transitional living programming for youth and therapeutic foster care.

**2002**

## **THE CENTER FOR SUCCESS AND INDEPENDENCE**

15-passenger van

It is the mission of the Center for Success and Independence to provide comprehensive, compassionate, and quality treatment to youth, ages 12-17, with behavioral and emotional disorders that are interfering with effective functioning in life. Utilizing sound clinical methods of treatment, clients will be prepared to successfully reintegrate into the community and to become fully functioning adults.

## **THE HAMPTON FAMILY**

Specially Equipped Handicap Van

Greg and Pola Hampton care for six medically fragile children in their foster home. The Hampton's are seeking a license to become a group home caring for 12 medically fragile children.

## **NEHEMIAH CENTER**

15-passenger van

The Nehemiah Center is a Christian-based center that offers academic, emotional, cultural and spiritual enrichment to the children and their families in the MacGregor Elementary School area in Houston's Third Ward. "Neighbors helping neighbors create a safe haven in which children are motivated, inspired and equipped to realize their God-given potential."

## **PRO-VISION**

15-passenger van

Pro-Vision's singular mission is to improve the life chances of marginalized youth by the reconciliation of individuals, families and communities caught in the vicious cycle social dysfunction, economic disparity and educational deprivation. Through the holistic application of firm moral, cultural and educational process, Pro-Vision is able to articulate success in the hearts and minds of young people.

## **SEARCH AND THE HOUSE OF TINY TREASURES**

15-passenger van

SEARCH serves Houston by assisting homeless people with dignity and providing those who choose to change their lives, the resources necessary to become productive citizens.

## **SEABORNE CHALLENGE CORPS-DIRECTIONS FOR TEXANS**

15-passenger van

The mission of the Seaborne Challenge Corps program, supported by the “Direction for Texans” Youth Foundation is to target youth who are at the greatest risk, with the highest potential for reversal, to provide those youth with the tools and experience to succeed and, to turn those youth into productive, employed, and law-abiding, taxpaying citizens. The goal of the program is to develop and enhance the skills, educational levels, and employment potential of at-risk youth through structured, quasi-military training. The program is designed around an intervention model that identifies eight core components to improve individual skills and aid the holistic growth of participants. The Seaborne Challenge Corps provides a comprehensive education, training, and community service alternative for youth who commit themselves to change in lifestyle and establish a life plan that will make them a productive resource for their families and communities.

**2003**

### **COVENANT HOUSE TEXAS**

15-passenger van

Covenant House of Texas provides care for children suffering from emotional, physical, and substance abuse as well as those that are homeless. Children are transported to Children’s Protective Services, to medical care, legal assistance, educational and training programs, and psychosocial counseling.

### **HOPE SHELTER**

15-passenger van

HOPE Shelter provides residential care and treatment to 13 teenage boys suffering from chronic substance and alcohol abuse. The children come from violent home environments and are transported to necessary school, medical care, and social activities.

### **NEW HOPE YOUTH CENTER**

15-passenger van

“Dedicated to providing a safe, loving and caring home.” The mission of New Hope Youth Center is to provide youth with the best possible treatment. They believe that this mission can be accomplished with the help of parents, agencies, managing conservators, case managers and the program working together. Our treatment program is designed to give each youth the opportunity to be successful, to assume responsibility for his behavior, treatment progress and to ensure a positive treatment environment.

### **PHOENIX OUTREACH YOUTH CENTER**

15-passenger van

The Phoenix Outreach Youth Center is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization committed to providing programs and resources to the children in Houston’s Fifth Ward community. The program addresses the needs of the entire family unit because a holistic approach to outreach is very important in the inner city. Information and resources are the most important tools for the success of a person; therefore, these tools place children and their parents on the fast track towards success. Preparing the next generation to meet their obligation to themselves, their family, their community, and their God.

### **RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE OF HOUSTON**

15-passenger van

The Ronald McDonald House of Houston is a home away from home for families with children being treated in the Texas Medical Center for cancer or other serious illness. The mission of the house is to strive in all ways possible to relieve the stress and pain of daily illness by offering these special families a warm, caring environment where they can share their concerns, and by supporting the advances in medical treatment for cancer at Texas Children’s Hospital.



## **TEXAS ADAPTIVE AQUATICS**

15-passenger van

Texas Adaptive Aquatics promotes the instruction and opportunity of water sports for physically and mentally challenged adults and children. TAA features the outstanding adaptive water skiing program allowing people with disabilities the opportunity to discover the thrill and excitement of water skiing.

## **TRINITY CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES**

15-passenger van

Trinity Children and Family Services was incorporated in 1966. Their mission then and now, is to reshape the lives of abused, socially deprived, and emotionally troubled boys and girls, regardless of race, creed or socioeconomic background. Through residential treatment campuses, group homes, a foster care agency, and other services they extend care to children and their families. Trinity Children and Family Services provide each child, family and adult in their care with quality therapeutic treatment, Social services and educational programs in a supportive and nurturing environment so they may lead healthy, productive lives.

**2004**

## **CONROE ISD POLICE ACTIVITY LEAGUE**

12-passenger van

Conroe ISD PAL actively promotes better relationships between police officers and kids on the street. The program creates a bond between the police officer and “at risk”, underprivileged, homeless or abused child through athletics, recreational activities and educational programs. PAL gives youth the opportunity to discover themselves, gain self-esteem and a positive attitude toward police officers, our laws and society. PAL encourages youth to learn that there are alternatives to gangs, drugs and crime and allows them to see themselves fitting into a world they never knew existed.

## **THE FURNITURE BANK**

1 truck

The Furniture Bank serves Houston area residents through local agencies and non-profit organizations. Our focus is to be a complement of an existing and organized effort to assist those that have a living condition that lacks the basic furnishings. Making empty houses homes means: Children don't have to sleep on the floor / Families can sit at a table together for their meals / Everyday items can have a place other than in a box. The Furniture Bank collects and distributes furniture and home furnishings free of charge for people in need that have received housing assistance through a social service agency or charity in the Houston area.

## **HOUSTON AREA WOMEN'S CENTER**

12-passenger van

HAWC is the only agency in Houston that provides comprehensive services to survivors of sexual assault and domestic violence, as well as the crucial community education needed to prevent violence against women and children. HAWC's services include emergency shelter, crisis intervention, individual and group counseling, referrals, legal advocacy, job training, transitional housing, and community outreach.

## **JAYCEE'S CHILDREN CENTER**

12-passenger van

Jaycee's Children Center is a residential treatment center serving adolescent females ages 12 through 18 suffering from physical, emotional, and sexual abuse. Children are transported to medical care, psychological counseling, social services, and educational programs.

## **L'ARMOR VILLAGE RESIDENTIAL TREATMENT FACILITY**

12-passenger van

L'Amor Village Residential Treatment Facility provides a caring and supportive therapeutic environment for children ages 12 to 17 in the custody of Children's Protective Services. The van will be used to transport these children to medical appointments, family visits, church, school and recreational events, just to name a few.

## **REFUGE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CENTER**

12-passenger van

RCDC is to empower Urban and Suburban families through real partnership. The challenge to RCDC is to provide the many elements of a "home" – a safe haven, combined with holistic services in the Third Ward/Astrodome areas and offering a compassionate hand up to those who truly want a way out.

## **SOLUTIONS 2 CHANGING LIVES**

12-passenger van

Solutions 2 Changing Lives takes pride in being "The Road People Take to Change." Along this road we are able to help build POWERFUL FAMILIES! Solutions does this through their youth development programs, which focus on life and social skills, college readiness, and cultural arts classes. It is the intention of Solutions to create avenues that can help level the playing field for those who are in need.

**2005**

## **ANOINTED CHILD CARE, INC.**

12-passenger van

Since inception, ACCI has provided almost \$6,000 in services to low-income, at risk families at no cost. The organization goal is to provide compassionate support to children, youth, and families from educationally and economically disadvantaged backgrounds in Northeast Houston communities. ACCI's mission is to "train up a child in the way that he should go," by providing educational learning events through registered child care, family mentoring networks and community support.

## **BOYS AND GIRLS COUNTY**

12-passenger van

Boys and Girls Country provides an environment where children are safe -- and where they have the opportunity to develop to their full potential. We accept children as young as five years old. According to the individual situation, a child may stay with us temporarily until the family situation stabilizes (three years on average) or may grow up here. The focus at Boys and Girls Country is to help each of our 128 children grow up into a mature, responsible adult.

## **COVENANT HOUSE**

12-passenger van

Established in 1983, Covenant House Texas is a non-profit human services agency that offers emergency shelter, crisis intervention, outreach and prevention, medical care, transitional housing, educational/vocational training and community-based services to runaway, homeless and "throwaway" youth under the age of 21. CHT offers youth sanctuary from the dangers of street life and abuse, structure in their unstructured lives and the necessary emotional support to help them choose workable life alternatives. CHT is part of an international network founded in New York City in 1968.

## **TREASURE OUR COMMUNITY, CDC, INC. (TOC)**

12-passenger van

Our Mission is to educate and enrich lives of underserved and “at-risk” children and youth in the community, academically, socially, and physically in a safe and drug-free environment. We also help alleviate juvenile crimes and gang activity in the neighborhood. TOC serves as a vital link between the home, school, and community.

**2006**

## **THE CENTER FOR SUCCESS AND INDEPENDENCE**

12-passenger van

It is the mission of The Center for Success and Independence to provide comprehensive, compassionate, and quality treatment to youth, ages 12-17, with behavioral and emotional disorders that are interfering with effective functioning in life. Utilizing sound clinical methods of treatment, clients will be prepared to successfully reintegrate into the community and to become fully functioning adults.

## **CASA DE ESPERANZA DE LOS NINOS**

Mini van

Casa de Esperanza de los Ninos is a safe place for children in crisis due to abuse, neglect or HIV/AIDS. They provide residential, medical, and psychological care to meet the individual needs of each child and offers counseling to the family. This is the 2nd vehicle given to Casa since 1998.

## **CITY WIDE CLUB OF AMERICA**

12-passenger van

The City Wide Club is better known for its Holiday Feast on Thanksgiving & Christmas at the George R. Brown Convention Center where 35,000 under privileged families are served hot meals, receive clothes, jobs, toys, housing and etc. The mission of City Wide Club of Clubs (CWCC) is to provide social services through the 107 chapters located in 50 states and 62 cities.

## **SEARCH AND THE HOUSE OF TINY TREASURES**

12-passenger van

SEARCH serves Houston by assisting homeless people with dignity and providing those who choose to change their lives, the resources necessary to become productive citizens. This is the 2nd vehicle given to SEARCH since 2002.

## **FAMILIES UNDER URBAN AND SOCIAL ATTACK, INC. (FUUSA)**

12-passenger van

FUUSA is an eleven-year-old community based nonprofit program serving families in Harris County. FUUSA's mission is to address societal problems that affect families by empowering the community through education, prevention, research, advocacy, intervention and collaboration. The underlying philosophy of FUUSA is that “change happens!” This is the 2nd vehicle given to FUUSA since 2001.

## **GRIDIRON HEROES**

Two customized 12-passenger vans

Gridiron Heroes Spinal Cord Injury Foundation provides immediate, as well as, long term resources and support to individuals sustaining a catastrophic spinal cord injury through activities associated with high school football.

Two vans were awarded to two boys from Gridiron Heroes Spinal Cord Injury Foundation and specially customized to fit their lifestyles.



## **PREVENT BLINDNESS TEXAS**

12-passenger van

A voluntary health and human service agency focused on preventing blindness; preserving sight; and enhancing and extending the quality of vision life for all Texans. We strive to serve the greatest number of Texas residents by continually improving the delivery of services through our network of branch offices and volunteers. We help our clients and their families with free vision screening, eye examination referrals, counseling and education to enable them to live as full and normal a quality vision life as possible.

## **THE FURNITURE BANK**

1 truck

The Furniture Bank serves Houston area residents through local agencies and non-profit organizations. Our focus is to be a complement of an existing and organized effort to assist those that have a living condition that lacks the basic furnishings. Making empty houses homes means: Children don't have to sleep on the floor / Families can sit at a table together for their meals / Everyday items can have a place other than in a box. The Furniture Bank collects and distributes furniture and home furnishings free of charge for people in need that have received housing assistance through a social service agency or charity in the Houston area.

## **THE HOUSE OF CHARITY**

12-passenger van

Strives to improve the quality of life for impoverished children around the world. We are a team of humanitarians dedicated to achieving maximum results and keeping our services free of discrimination.

## **TIMOTHY PROJECT**

12-passenger van

Our mission is to embrace and enhance the spiritual and life skills of youth, and to empower them to do the same for others. We envision that young people who suffer from a variety of spiritual, emotional, and/or behavioral problems, who have a history of being socially or economically disadvantaged, or whose parents are incarcerated and/or addicted to drugs/alcohol will pursue fulfilling and self-sufficient lives, become mentors to other youth in need, and function as effective witnesses and laborers in the kingdom of God.

## **PLEASANT HILL ACADEMY**

15-passenger van

Pleasant Hill has developed a plan to initiate change in the educational standards and services of Fifth Ward and to raise the future prospects of its residents. This is accomplished through arts and technology education. It is specifically designed to study global cultures in an across the curriculum unit approach through fine arts activities. The instructional model used, characterized by hands-on learning, increases the probability of individual student achievement. The school currently serves K-5 and each year another grade level will be added up to the 8<sup>th</sup> grade.

**2007**

## **THE SALVATION ARMY IRVINGTON BOYS & GIRLS CLUB**

12-passenger van

The Salvation Army, an international movement, is an evangelical part of the universal Christian church. Its message is based on the Bible and its ministry is motivated by the love of God. Its mission is to preach the gospel of Jesus Christ and to meet human needs in His name without discrimination.

### **SHAMAR HOPE HAVEN RTC**

12-passenger van

Exemplifies state of the art technology in the treatment of behavioral health and substance use disorders. Dedicated to providing research based, culturally and developmentally appropriate therapeutic modalities to clients and their families. Committed to excellence in the mandate of teaching their clients the skills necessary to live health and drug free lives. A place where everybody is somebody.

### **HOPE SHELTER, INC.**

12-passenger van

HOPE Shelter provides residential care and treatment to 13 teenage boys suffering from chronic substance and alcohol abuse. The children come from violent home environments and are transported to necessary school, medical care, and social activities.

### **CHILDREN'S MEMORIAL HERMANN HOSPITAL**

12-passenger van

We provide care for children in more than 30 pediatric subspecialties. Our caring staff treats everything from life-threatening injuries to routine medical procedures in children ranging from premature infants to teens. Through a creative blend of education, play and support services, our staff helps make hospitalization a more positive, understandable experience for children.

### **DEPELCHIN CHILDREN'S CENTER**

12-passenger van

Recognizing that a child's needs are best met in a family environment, DePelchin Children's Center strengthens the lives of children and their families in our community by providing a continuum of services to prevent and resolve social and emotional crisis.

### **POOH'S PANDA SPECIAL NEEDS ACADEMY**

12-passenger van

The mission of Pooh's Panda Special Needs Academy, Inc. is to provide comprehensive, affordable child care that promotes an exemplary continuum of quality service to children with special needs through innovative programs that instill and foster their cognitive, social, emotional, and physical development.

### **THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS HEALTH SCIENCE CENTER AT HOUSTON HARRIS COUNTY PSYCHIATRIC CENTER**

2 vans

The University of Texas Harris County Psychiatric Center is dedicated to excellence and leadership in the provision of patient care and the growing need for treatment of persons with mental illness residing in Harris County. UTHCPC has the unique additional missions of The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston, which includes conducting research into the treatment of mental illness, educating professionals in the care of the mentally ill and providing the resources and knowledge of our staff to the local community.

**2008**

### **COVENANT HOUSE TEXAS**

Mini van

Covenant House of Texas provides care for children suffering from emotional, physical, and substance abuse as well as those that are homeless. Children are transported to Children's Protective Services, to medical care, legal assistance, educational and training programs, and psychosocial counseling.

### **THE FORGE FOR FAMILIES**

Two 12-passenger vans

The mission of The FORGE for Families is to enrich the spiritual, educational, vocational, and leadership development of inner city families through Christ-centered mentoring, bringing transforming growth to Houston's Third Ward community.

### **THE FURNITURE BANK**

1 truck

The Furniture Bank serves Houston area residents through local agencies and non-profit organizations. Our focus is to be a complement of an existing and organized effort to assist those that have a living condition that lacks the basic furnishings. Making empty houses homes means: Children don't have to sleep on the floor / Families can sit at a table together for their meals / Everyday items can have a place other than in a box. The Furniture Bank collects and distributes furniture and home furnishings free of charge for people in need that have received housing assistance through a social service agency or charity in the Houston area.

### **HOPE FOR YOUTH**

15-passenger van

Hope for Youth transport at-risk youth of Houston to Christian maturity by providing spiritual, educational and recreational programs through the vehicle of relationships with adult staff and volunteers. Fun Friday nights, weekends activities, College Prep classes, and weekly church attendance help students to mature into strong Christian adults who live out their faith in ways that are practical, visible, and impact the people around them.

### **IMPACT YOUTH DEVELOPMENT CENTER**

12-passenger van

A mission to inspire, equip, and guide urban youth to LIVE! The program serves children from the Greater Fifth Ward. Currently, YDC operates an after-school academic remediation program that addresses literacy development for inner city students in grades 3 - 8.

### **NO MORE VICTIMS, INC.**

12-passenger van

Created in 1993 for the purpose of reducing victimizing behavior in society by specifically addressing the needs and issues of both the child and adult. The organization seeks to deter the violent, abusive, and victimizing behavior in our society by using very creative and innovative programming for the purpose of specifically addressing these issues with a special focus on the parent-child relationship and the effect this relationship has on our lives.

### **PRO-VISION, INC.**

12-passenger van

Pro-Vision's mission is to inspire hope and purpose for individuals, families and communities through the moral, cultural and educational opportunities. With little more than a burning desire and no outside resources, the founders of Pro-Vision embarked upon a journey to develop young men of character, dignity and purpose. Since 1989, Pro-Vision has been a beacon of hope and touched the lives of thousands of young men in the Greater Houston area. Pro-Vision is committed to the moral, social, and economic reconciliation of disenfranchised youth, their families, and communities, and serves as a catalyst for establishing moral alternatives for living.

**2009**

**ARETHA WEST-MILES FAMILY**

Specially Equipped Handicap van

Aretha West-Miles is a handicapped mother of four. She has been diagnosed with scoliosis and COPD and is in need of a lung transplant. In addition to her handicap, Aretha has a six year old handicapped daughter who is battling Spina Bifida.

**BETHEL'S PLACE**

12-passenger van

The mission of Bethel's place is to positively affect the lives of the people in our community by providing resources that are imperative to enhance their quality of life. They offer outreach programs and enrichment activities to the community because it is their desire to empower the members of the community to rise above their circumstances by offering various programs designed for the entire family.

**THE BRIDGE OVER TROUBLED WATERS**

12-passenger van

The mission of The Bridge is to offer support, provide safety, and prevent domestic and sexual violence. The Bridge provides access to critical services for those in crisis situations. Over its 31 year history, The Bridge has grown to become the 6th largest comprehensive crisis centers of its kind in Texas serving more than 20,000 people annually. In addition to being one of the largest crisis centers in Texas, The Bridge is also the only agency of its kind serving southeast Harris County-a population of approximately 526,000.

**BRIGHTER VISIONS CHILD CARE SERVICES**

12-passenger van

By providing a continuum of wholesome family services and professional support, Brighter Visions Child Care Services creates social, mental and academic excellence in the lives of children. Brighter Visions recruits, orients, trains and supports foster families who develop their capacities to provide a nurturing and structured environment for children and youth, pending their return home, adoption or transition into independent living.

**HAVE HAVEN**

12-passenger van

Have Haven, Inc. is a nonprofit organization that helps children who have been victims of abuse and/or neglect and are unable to live at home with their families. We provide them with a safe, nurturing place to live, where they can receive intensive, individualized counseling services, group therapy, medical care, and educational support.

**MISSION OF YAHWEH**

12-passenger van

We are a faith-based shelter that Empowers, Enriches and Restores the lives of homeless women and children and provides outreach services to low income communities. The Mission of Yahweh has empowered homeless and abused women and their children for over 47 years. The doors are always open for women in crisis. We are a truly unique refuge that not only gives food, clothing and shelter, but also is committed to rehabilitating women to become self-sufficient, productive members of society. At The Mission of Yahweh, we shelter, clothe, feed and support more than 1,600 residential stays each month. We also support thousands of Houston/Carverdale-area residents with donations of food, school supplies and other necessities.



**2010**

**DEVEREUX TREATMENT NETWORK**

12-passenger van

Are proud to be involved in redirecting, empowering and changing lives. For 50 years in Texas, Devereux has served as a place where children, adults and families can overcome their mental illness – experiencing what it truly means to have hope.

**MARY SCALISE**

Handicap Accessible Van

Mary is a single mother of five children. Three of her children were adopted from Casa de Esperanza and have special needs. She was in need of a handicap accessible van for her adopted son, Luke. He was placed in her home at 5 months old and was severely neglected and malnourished at the time. Luke is also diagnosed with Cerebral Palsy, failure to thrive, and Epilepsy. He is now 5 years old and continues to thrive. His wheelchair weighs over 250 lbs and could not be lifted into their vehicle.

**2011**

**MAKING IT BETTER**

12-passenger van

Making It Better (MIB) is a local non-profit, founded in 2006 by Jerry Davis, to address the severe disadvantages faced by low income children in the Houston area by providing them with academic intervention, positive activities, and adult role models. MIB works directly with teachers and administrators at each school to identify the needs of each child; thereby enabling tutors to give them individualized support, customizing programs to fit the student's unique needs. MIB is the only agency providing tutoring services at no cost to at-risk children in west Houston.

**GARY J. LYNN**

Handicap Accessible Van

Gary J. Lynn was born with Spastic Quadriplegic Cerebral Palsy and is unable to walk. He is currently a patient at Texas Children's Hospital. To transport him back and forth his parents must use a manual wheelchair. This wheelchair has to be broken down and placed in the trunk for each car trip. Gary is now 19 years old and continues to grow so transporting him is becoming more difficult. This van gives him freedom.

**DEVEREUX TREATMENT NETWORK**

Ford Fusion Hybrid

Are proud to be involved in redirecting, empowering and changing lives. For 50 years in Texas, Devereux has served as a place where children, adults and families can overcome their mental illness – experiencing what it truly means to have hope.

**2012**

**GABRIELLA J. POOLE**

Handicap Accessible Van

Gabriella J. Poole was born 28 weeks (premature) and later at the age of 3 was diagnosed with Cerebral Palsy. Her handicap condition is high muscle tone that impairs her from walking and impairs her independence. To transport her back and forth her parents must use a manual wheelchair. This wheelchair has to be broken down and placed in the trunk for each car trip. The Poole's have adapted to the challenge when it comes to transporting Gabriella from one place to another. It has become more of a physical challenge to the family as Gabriella is growing. They no longer have to limited themselves from going out because of transportation issues.

## **JASON L. MACKEY**

Handicap Accessible Van

Jason L. Mackey was born with Nemaline Myopathy Neuromuscular Disease. He is in an electric wheelchair, has a trach and ventilator, and has 20 hours / 7 days of home nursing care a week. It has become more of a physical challenge to lift him. Jason, 13, is growing and his weight is increasing and this alone presents a challenge during transportation. This van will give him more freedom.

## **MISSION OF YAHWEH**

12-passenger van

We are a faith-based shelter that Empowers, Enriches and Restores the lives of homeless women and children and provides outreach services to low income communities. The Mission of Yahweh has empowered homeless and abused women and their children for over 51 years. The doors are always open for women in crisis. We are a truly unique refuge that not only gives food, clothing and shelter, but also is committed to rehabilitating women to become self-sufficient, productive members of society. At The Mission of Yahweh, we shelter, clothe, feed and support more than 1,600 residential stays each month. We also support thousands of Houston/Carverdale-area residents with donations of food, school supplies and other necessities.

## **GRACEWOOD**

12-passenger van

Gracewood, is a transitional housing and family care program serving single at-risk mothers and children in the Greater Houston area. Gracewood was opened in Houston in 2001 by Texas Baptist Children's Home (TBCH), a residential childcare ministry founded in round Rock in 1950 as a home for dependent and neglected children. In 1979, TBCH introduced a group residential program called *Family Care* to extend help, hope and the love of Christ to single mothers and their children who are at risk for homelessness and poverty. In 2001, TBCH extended this highly successful ministry to Houston with the opening of Gracewood's first campus. A second campus followed in the Spring of 2010.

## **COVENANT HOUSE TEXAS**

12-passenger van

Covenant House of Texas provides care for children suffering from emotional, physical, and substance abuse as well as those that are homeless. Children are transported to Children's Protective Services, to medical care, legal assistance, educational and training programs, and psychosocial counseling.

## **MARY SCALISE**

Handicap Accessible Van

Mary is a single mother of five children. Three of her children were adopted from Casa de Esperanza and have special needs. She was in need of a handicap accessible van for her adopted son, Luke. He was placed in her home at 5 months old and was severely neglected and malnourished at the time. Luke is also diagnosed with cerebral palsy, failure to thrive, and epilepsy. He is now 5 years old and continues to thrive. His wheelchair weighs over 250 lbs and could not be lifted into their vehicle.

**2013**

## **KASEY BENNETT**

Handicap Accessible Conversion

Kasey Bennett is an 11 year old boy with Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy Disease. This is a slowly progressive disease that deteriorates the muscles until they no longer work. Kasey is confined to a wheelchair and as he grows it will become more difficult to load him and the wheelchair into the van. Having a handicap accessible van allows his mother the ability to transport Kasey without lifting him in and out of the families 2009 Dodge Grand Caravan.

### **CARLOS A. CHAVEZ**

#### Handicap Accessible Van

Carlos A. Chavez is a 4 year old boy with Mitochondria Disorder. Mitochondrial diseases are categorized according to the organ systems affected and symptoms present. Carlos has generalized muscle weakness and global developmental delay, medically and developmentally fragile. The family has one car and it is constantly breaking down. A handicap accessible van has changed their world. They are able to get to the doctors, schools and other outings as a family.

### **YOUNG LIFE HOUSTON CENTRAL**

#### 12-passenger van

Young Life Houston Central is a non-profit campus youth ministry, working with inner-city and at-risk kids to provide guidance, direction, and hope with the message of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. The awarded 12 passenger van makes it possible for teens (11 – 18) to have transportation services to and from activities where they will receive guidance and help that they would not otherwise receive.

### **DIANA REYNA**

#### Handicap Accessible Van

Diana Reyna is a 10 year old girl with bone cancer who is also quadriplegic. Diana's parents carry her nearly everywhere, even sustaining their own injuries trying to do so. The new handicap accessible van allows Diana an entirely new life as she will be able to go to the movies, grocery store and trick-or-treating which she could not do before.

### **MIGUEL AGUILA**

#### Handicap Accessible Van

Miguel Aguila was diagnosed, at the age of 8 months, with Cerebral Palsy, only later to find out he had been misdiagnosed. At 7, the doctors informed his parents that his true diagnosis was Spinal Muscular Atrophy (type 2) along with Scoliosis.

Miguel's parents have had to rely on friends and family to transport him to doctors' appointments, family outings, birthday parties, high school football games to see his sister dance and other places. He continues to grow and it has made it very hard to transport him because of his condition. A handicap accessible van now allows Miguel, now 9, and his family to continue to go places and not be left behind.

### **KARINA MARTINEZ**

#### Handicap Accessible Van

Karina Martinez, 21 years old, is considered a special health care needs child, because of her numerous medical conditions and daily level of care necessary. Karina is confined to her wheelchair. She must travel with medical equipment and supplies, as well as her medications. In transporting Karina, her parents have to take her wheelchair apart and have 2 to 3 people to lift her into the family car. This handicap accessible van will change the world for Karina and her family. They can now transport her without assistance and the quality of her life has greatly increased.

**2014**

### **KIDS' MEALS, INC.**

#### 12-passenger van

Kids' Meals on Wheels program is for pre-school aged children living in poverty. Nutritious meals are delivered to the doors of hungry, innocent children. Kids' Meals is ending hunger among children by delivering 1,700 nutritious meals daily. For some of these children, this is the only meal they will receive all day. The children receive a healthy meal that consists of a whole wheat sandwich, a fruit and/or a snack, and 100% juice or milk. Bags of groceries, fresh fruits and vegetables, baked goods and other donated foods from restaurants and grocery stores are delivered throughout the week as well.

### **SOFIA MONTERROSA**

#### Handicap Accessible Conversion

Sofia Monterrosa was born premature and diagnosed with a cleft lip plate, cerebral palsy and trisomy 18 (Edwards Syndrome). Due to her numerous medical conditions and daily level of necessary care transportation had become more difficult. She was restricted to ambulance transportation (for medical appointments only) due to her need to travel with medical equipment and supplies. The awarded handicap accessible conversion makes a world of difference for mom when transporting Sofia to doctor's appointments, therapy sessions and family outings.

### **JESSICA HERRERA**

#### Handicap Accessible Van

Jessica Herrera is an 8 year old girl with Spinal Muscular Atrophy (Type 3). This disease includes a progressive muscular weakness and has left Jessica wheel chair dependent. She is not able to stand independently and is now too big for her parents to carry or lift her into the car. The handicap accessible van is LIFE ALTERING for Jessica and her family. It has allowed Jessica's family to transport her comfortably to therapy sessions, the hospital, school or family outings.

### **LUIS J. FRANCO**

#### Handicap Accessible Van

Luis J. Franco was diagnosed, at the age of 18 months, with Spinal Muscular Atrophy. This neuromuscular disease has left his muscles very weak causing Scoliosis. By the age of 12, Luis had endured multiple back surgeries. Due to the condition of his back, family trips to therapy sessions would pose a challenge to his health. This new handicap accessible van allows Luis to concentrate on life without pain during a simple car ride – opening doors to new adventures for him and his family.

### **LEVI GRAHAM**

#### Handicap Accessible Van

Levi Graham was born a healthy baby boy; but at five months, he was a victim of Shaken Baby Syndrome (SBS). Today, at 15 years of age, Levi has many special needs. He is confined to a wheelchair, and he cannot talk or walk. Transporting Levi has become extremely difficult. This handicap accessible van will assist his mother in traveling from place to place. The days of lifting him and his wheelchair are gone – This has been LIFE ALTERING!!!

### **YOUTH DEVELOPMENT CENTER**

#### 12-Passenger Van

HCC awarded a van to Youth Development Center in 2007. Their work has continued to be exemplary. YDC provides afterschool academic intervention programs for at risk students in grades 1-6. Many of YDC's students suffer from physical handicaps and learning disabilities like Attention Deficit Disorder and Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder, in addition to the cultural handicap of residing in the economically-disadvantaged neighborhoods of the Greater Fifth Ward of Houston. YDC picks up 90% of its students from their school campuses each day and delivers them to their homes at the end of each program day.

### **WILLIAM RIVENBARK**

#### Handicap Accessible Van

William Rivenbark has Muscular Dystrophy associated with lifelong progressive generalized weakness and requires a power wheelchair for mobility. His motorized wheelchair weighs 300 lbs. and takes multiple people to lift, so he has had to use a manual wheel chair most of the time. It has become difficult for Ms. Rivenbark to carry William due to his weight. William is in the 10th grade and likes to play video games, enjoys Science and his dream is to become a paleontologist. This handicapped accessible van will support William and his family in their everyday life adventures – creating new opportunities for everyone.



## **ERIC RODRIGUEZ**

### Handicap Accessible Van

Eric Rodriguez, age 12, has Muscular Dystrophy and has lost most of his muscle strength. He can still lift his arms, but finds it difficult to hold any weight. Eric has a motorized wheelchair but the family can no longer lift him due to his weight. He does not leave home unless it is for doctor visits or school. He has aspirations to have a career in graphic design. Eric also enjoys going to the grocery store with his mother. This handicapped accessible van will allow Eric to get out of the house and spend more time doing activities with his family.

## **AMANI SUDDS**

### Handicap Accessible Van

Amani Suds was diagnosed with Muscular Dystrophy at six. Currently he is 16 years old, weighs 126 lbs. and is a sophomore in high school. Amani uses a motorized wheelchair to be mobile but only leaves home for school and doctor visits. Amani's great-grandfather, who is 77 years old, is Amani's registered Home Health Care Provider. It has become difficult for Armani's great-grandfather to lift Amani due to his weight.

Amani, like most teenage boys, loves video games, going to the movies, dinner at Dave & Buster's and participating in other social activities with his peers. This new handicapped accessible van will be LIFE ALTERING to everyone in the family and help Amani work to achieving his future goals.

## **STEPHEN HILL**

### Handicap Accessible Van

Stephen was born with Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy (DMD) but was not diagnosed until the age of four.

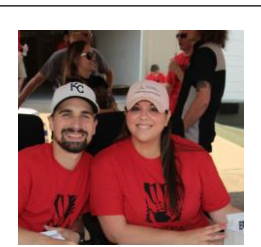
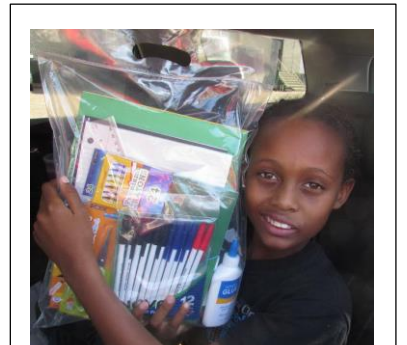
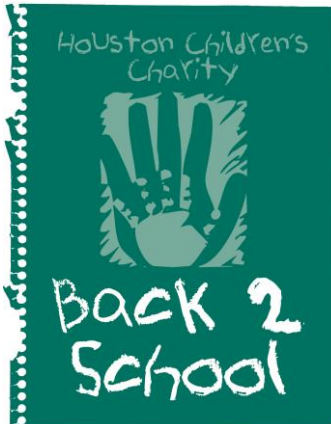
He lost the ability to walk when he was ten years old. At 13, Stephen had Scoliosis surgery. Rebecca Howell, a single mother with a small car, had to physically transport Stephen from her car to any destination because his motorized wheel chair was too big to transport in their family vehicle. Because of the lack of adequate transportation Stephen has to spend time at home rather than go on outings with his mom. Stephen does not leave home unless it is for doctor visits or school. This handicapped accessible van greatly improves Stephen's mobility needs for the future...its LIFE ALTERING!!!



## "Back 2 School"

### Backpacks & School Supplies

All children should be able to go school on the first day wearing a new backpack loaded with supplies. Since its creation in 2005, Houston Children's Charity "Back 2 School" program has helped more than 14,850 children in and around the Houston area. These deserving kids are now able to walk into class that first day, armed with a new back pack, school supplies, hope and confidence.





## *Limbs for Life*

Houston Children's Charity provides myoelectric and body powered prosthetic devices at no charge to children who have tragically suffered the loss of limbs. Fitting these children with prosthetic limbs as soon as possible after traumatic amputations or injuries helps them to reclaim their lives.



*Michelle Alcorn was the first beneficiary of our Limbs for Life program, receiving prosthetic devices at a cost of \$46,665.37.*







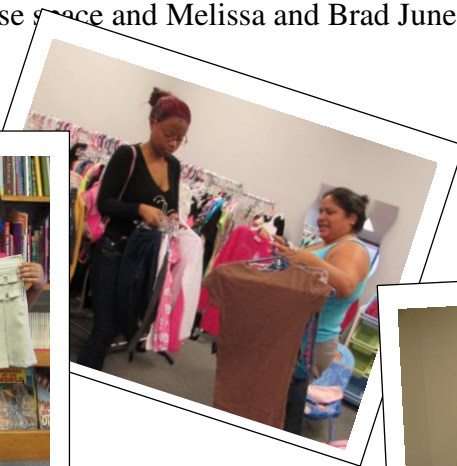
## *"HCC's Closet"*

**An Unforgettable Success!!!!**



Hearing Melissa Juneau recount her many rewarding experiences at the *"HCC Closet,"* one is reminded of the old adage, "Those who give receive much in return." The *"HCC Closet"* is unique and special because all items are donated and go directly to families, and as Melissa puts it, it gives people in need the opportunity to "shop with dignity." The meticulously kept rooms are a testament to the long hours that Melissa, HCC Staff and committed volunteers spend creating an environment where "shoppers" can browse our racks as if they were at a retail boutique. Inspiration is found each time a family catches their first glimpse of the Closet's overflowing aisles and "their faces just light up."

Melissa recalled a day she will never forget. "A woman came into the Closet in tears. She was already caring for her 4 children and 9 grandchildren, and had just discovered that she also had 3-month old twin grandchildren who had been abandoned for 3 days. We were able to help her with diapers, bottles, clothes—nearly everything that a baby needs!" Our families are forever grateful for the dedication and the generous donations that go with the HCC Closet. HCC is thankful for Patricia and Pat Harrison, of Warehouse Associates, who have graciously lent warehouse space and Melissa and Brad Juneau for underwriting the cost of the Closet.







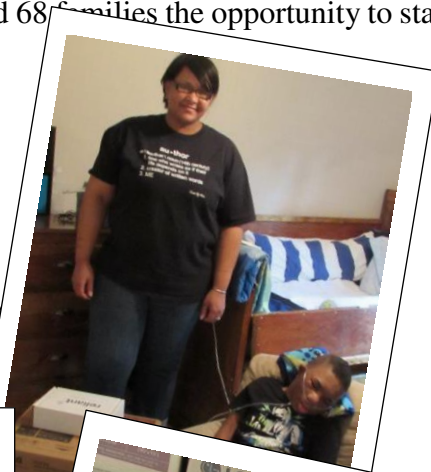
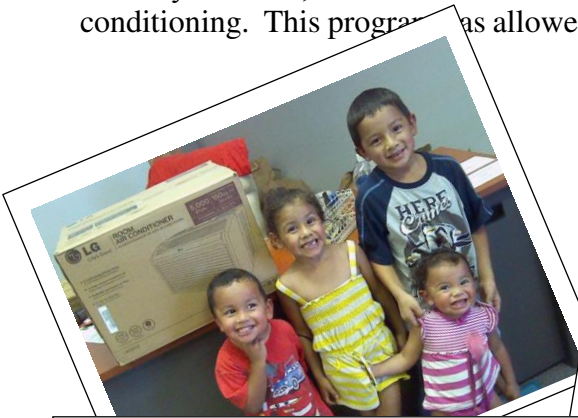
## "KOOL KIDZ"



Out of dramatic urgency and enormous need in our community, Houston Children's Charity launched its newest program called **"Kool Kidz"** in 2010.

Houston is the largest city in the state of Texas and the fourth-largest in the United States. In 2010, Houston broke the 1980 record of 32 days over 100 degrees and ended up with 46 days over 100 degrees. Can you imagine spending 46 days in that kind of heat without an air conditioner?

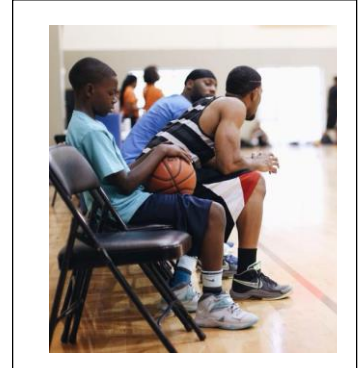
In a city this size, it's an inevitable fact that a large number of Houston's most needy families do not have air conditioning. This program has allowed 68 families the opportunity to stay cool during the hot summer months.







## Out In The Community



Houston Children's Charity works to create a world where every child has their very own bed, clothing, school supplies, transportation, health services, and joyful holidays. We are making progress, assisting one child at a time and measure our success by the number of children's lives that are touched. This does not happen without dedicated sponsors and committed volunteers!

Throughout 2014, various agencies & companies invited us to continue to connect, develop, and grow awareness within their communities. Without these relationships, Houston Children's Charity would not have the ability to reach full potential and address the needs of our clients.

These events not only raised funds but awareness for Houston Children's Charity. We thank all of those companies and agencies that opened their doors to further our mission.







**WE ARE**  
**HCC**





## **Houston Children's Charity Annual Events**

### **Children's Easter Party**

Northland Christian School is our gracious host of this annual event. This springtime afternoon is full of activities that create memories. Wendy's Old Fashion Hamburgers sponsors our food for the event. The attractions include a petting zoo, a carousel of ponies, HLSR clowns, moon walks, face-painting, crafts, games, a display of Community Service Vehicles and a visit from the Easter Bunny and his pals. After an Easter Egg Hunt, each child receives an Easter Basket, stuffed animals, board games and books. In 2014, this event hosted over 350 children along with 175 volunteers and chaperones.

### **Sports Outings**

Due to the generous donations from sponsors, many children were able to have experiences never before possible. Whether on the track, field or court, the children enjoy the festivities and make memories to speak of for a long time.

### **Food Assistance Program**

This program has provided over 300 families with Gift Cards to H-E-B, Fiesta, Food Town, Gerland's, Wal-Mart and Sellers Brothers. These families are most grateful for the opportunity to provide their children with a holiday feast.

### **Adopt-A-Family**

At Christmas, this program allows Houstonians the opportunity to create "Christmas MAGIC" by becoming a family "Sponsor." They provide requested toys, food, clothing and other items on the family's wish list. The enthusiasm was vast for 2014 with over 350 sponsors participating in this program. Thanks to their generosity, we were able to help 440 families with 1,280 children. Christmas miracles do happen!!!

### **Children's Christmas Party**

Children from Houston area families are treated to toys, goodies, entertainment and, of course, the arrival of Santa and Mrs. Claus. Each child receives his or her own personally labeled bag of toys. In 2014, HCC received donations from Sysco, Randall's, Oak Farm Dairy, Whataburger, Taco Cabana, Mechanical Kits and PepsiCo. The children enjoyed a hamburger and hotdog buffet and a "make your own" ice cream sundae bar, all provided by the Hyatt Regency Downtown. Holiday entertainment rounded out a fun day for all with Live Animals from Houston Downtown Aquarium, Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo Clowns, The Denim & Diamonds Line Dancers, T.J. Party Mascots, Roly the Clown, Houston Rockets Power Dancers & Clutch, Dynamo Diesel and Toys for Tots Marines. In 2014, the event hosted over 650 children and over 150 volunteers.

### **Children's Toy Distribution**

Needy families receive appointments to attend our two-day Toy Distribution where they select age and gender appropriate gifts for their children. Since 2009, HCC has been the gracious recipient of the Marine's Toys for Tots program. In 2010, Houston First Corporation granted 125,000 square feet of space in the George R. Brown Convention Center to allow HCC to have the event again. As a result of both partnerships, HCC has been able to help thousands and thousands of children during the Holiday Season.

Just like the last few years, the children of the City of Houston became the benefactors of toys for yet another magnificent toy distribution. In 2014, HCC was able to assist over 25,000 children. It is a true sign of the times when a city can pull together to this degree. HCC's Board of Directors is proud to partner with Houston First Corporation and the United States Marine Corp's Toys for Tots program to bring a little holiday joy and happiness to Houston's special children.

In addition, this holiday season we had over 1,000 volunteers assisting us with our holiday programs, as well as Houston Police Officers securing our Annual Christmas Party at the Hyatt Regency Houston and Toy Distribution at the Houston First Corporation - George R. Brown Convention Center.



# Annual Easter Party



2014







On the grounds of Northland Christian School, Houston Children's Charity held its Annual Easter Houston area families and agencies. Over 350 underprivileged children enjoyed the planned Easter festivities including a petting zoo, pony rides, moon walks, face painting and a visit from the Easter Bunny. Games were played, jewelry was crafted, cotton candy and popcorn were consumed and prizes were handed out to the children throughout the event. After the Easter Egg Hunt, individual Easter Baskets, stuffed animals, books and board games were also distributed to each child prior to leaving the festivities. HCC teamed up with Wendy's Old Fashion Hamburgers, Pepsi, HLSR – Speakers' Committee Rodeo Clowns, by PAL dancers (Police Activity League), Dynamo Diesel, Wendy, Cookie Monster, Klein Volunteer Fire Department, Houston Police Department, Randall's, Violeta's Pasteles, James Coney Island, Taco Cabana, Salviace Photography, Brenda Lechuga Family and Northland Christian School helped make this event unforgettable for those deserving children.





# 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Children's Christmas Party



2014







Over 650 children from the Houston area are treated to a day full of memories at the Hyatt Regency Houston Downtown. Amazing memories include toys, goodies, entertainment and, of course, the arrival of Santa and Mrs. Claus. Each child receives a personally labeled bag of toys. The families enjoy a hamburger /hotdog buffet and an ice cream sundae bar. Holiday entertainment rounds out a fun day for all with Live Animals from Houston Downtown Aquarium, Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo Clowns, Denim & Diamonds Line Dancers, Roly the Clown, T.J. Party Mascots, Houston Rockets Power Dancers & Clutch, Dynamo Diesel and Toys for Tots Marines. This event would not be possible without the numerous sponsors and over 150 volunteers.







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# Houston Children's Charity's Toys for Tots Annual Toy Distribution

Since 2009, HCC has teamed with the U.S. Marine Toys for Tots program to provide toys for underserved children. Since 2010, a conglomerate with Houston First Corporation has granted 125,000 square feet of space in the George R. Brown Convention Center to host our toy distribution. As a result of both partnerships, HCC has been able to help tens of thousands of children during the Holiday Season.







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